

What is claimed is:

1. A method of generating a proof image for a printed image before the printed image is produced from an original image by a printed image generating apparatus, using a proof image generating apparatus having an output resolution different from the output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus, comprising the steps of:

converting halftone dot threshold data at the output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus into halftone dot threshold data corresponding to the output resolution of the proof image generating apparatus; and

generating the proof image from the original image using the converted halftone dot threshold data.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said proof image generating apparatus has an output resolution which is N times (N is an integer of 2 or greater) the output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus, and wherein said step of converting halftone dot threshold data comprises the step of interpolating the halftone dot threshold data at the output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus into N-fold halftone dot threshold data, and said step of generating the proof image comprises the step of generating the proof image from the original image using the interpolated halftone dot threshold data.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said step of interpolating the halftone dot threshold data comprises the step of interpolating each of the halftone dot threshold data by copying an adjacent one of the halftone dot threshold data.

4. A method according to claim 2, wherein said step of interpolating the halftone dot threshold data comprises the step of interpolating each of the halftone dot threshold data by determining an average value of adjacent two of the halftone dot threshold data.

5. A method of generating a proof image for a printed image before the printed image is produced from an original image by a printed image generating apparatus, using a proof image generating apparatus having an output resolution different from the output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus, comprising:

converting continuous tone image data obtained from the original image into binary image data using halftone dot threshold data at the output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus;

interpolating said binary image data into binary image data at the output resolution of the proof image generating apparatus; and

generating the proof image based on the interpolated binary image.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said proof
image generating apparatus has an output resolution which is
N times (N is an integer of 2 or greater) the output
5 resolution of the printed image generating apparatus, and
wherein said step of interpolating said binary image data
comprises the step of interpolating said binary image data
into N-fold binary image data, and said step of generating
the proof image comprises the step of generating the proof
10 image from said N-fold binary image data.

7. A proof image generating apparatus for generating a
proof image for a printed image before the printed image is
produced from an original image by a printed image
15 generating apparatus, comprising:

output resolution setting means for setting an output
resolution of the printed image generating apparatus;

halftone dot threshold data holding means for holding
halftone dot threshold data at said output resolution set by
20 said output resolution setting means;

halftone dot threshold data rewriting means for
rewriting the halftone dot threshold data at said set output
resolution into halftone dot threshold data at an output
resolution of the proof image generating apparatus;

25 binary image data converting means for converting
continuous tone image data obtained from the original image
into binary image data using the rewritten halftone dot

threshold data; and

means for generating the proof image from said binary image data.

5 8. A proof image generating apparatus for generating a proof image for a printed image before the printed image is produced from an original image by a printed image generating apparatus, comprising:

10 output resolution setting means for setting an output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus;

 halftone dot threshold data holding means for holding halftone dot threshold data at an output resolution of the proof image generating apparatus which has been produced by rewriting halftone dot threshold data at the output
15 resolution of the printed image generating apparatus;

 binary image data converting means for selecting the halftone dot threshold data corresponding to the output resolution set by said output resolution setting means, and converting continuous tone image data obtained from the
20 original image into binary image data using the selected halftone dot threshold data; and

 means for generating the proof image from said binary image data.

25 9. A proof image generating apparatus for generating a proof image for a printed image before the printed image is produced from an original image by a printed image

generating apparatus, comprising:

output resolution setting means for setting an output resolution of the printed image generating apparatus;

5 halftone dot threshold data holding means for holding halftone dot threshold data at said output resolution set by said output resolution setting means;

10 binary image data converting means for converting continuous tone image data obtained from the original image into binary image data using the halftone dot threshold data at said output resolution set by said output resolution setting means;

interpolating means for interpolating said binary image data depending on the output resolution of the proof image generating apparatus; and

15 means for generating the proof image from said binary image data.